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PATENT, TRADEMARK, COPYRIGHT
AND UNFAIR COMPETITION LAW
AND RELATED LITIGATION

EDMUND P. WOOD 1923-1998
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EDWARD B. EVANS 1936-1971

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January 16, 2004

FACSIMILE COVER SHEET

To: Group Unit No. 1722
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
Fax: 703-872-9306

From: William R. Allen, Ph.D.

Re: US Application Serial No. 10/072,550
Filed February 7, 2002
FORMING SYSTEM FOR THE
MANUFACTURE OF NONWOVEN
WEBS AND LAMINATES
Inventor: Martin A. Allen
Confirmation No.: 3458
Atty Docket: NOR-1034
Client Reference: 01-186US

Pages: 16 (including cover sheet)

MESSAGE/COMMENTS

Please see Preliminary Amendment for filing in connection with the above-referenced patent application.

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is sent via
facsimile transmission to: Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment,
Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA
22313-1450, Fax Number: (703) 872-0906 on January 16,
2004

William R. Allen
William R. Allen, Reg. No. 48,389

16 January 2004
Date

Applicant:	Martin A. Allen	Confirmation No.:	3458
Serial No:	10/072,550		
Filing Date:	February 7, 2002		
Art Unit:	1722		
Examiner:	Unknown		
Title:	FORMING SYSTEM FOR THE MANUFACTURE OF THERMOPLASTIC NONWOVEN WEBS AND LAMINATES		
Atty Docket:	NOR-1034		

Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

January 16, 2004

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to examination, please preliminarily amend this application.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which
begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 15 of this paper.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 10 with the following rewritten paragraph:

--While the air management system 12 has been illustrated in conjunction with the two-station production line 10, the air management system 12 is generally applicable to other production lines having a single station or a plurality of stations. In a single station production line, the nonwoven web can be manufactured using any one of a number of process processes, such as a meltblowing process or a spunbonding process. In a multiple-station production line, a plurality of nonwoven webs can be manufactured to form a multilayer laminate or composite. Any combination of meltblowing and spunbonding processes may be used to manufacture the laminate. For instance, the laminate may include only nonwoven meltblown webs or only nonwoven spunbonded webs. However, the laminate may include any combination of meltblown webs and spunbonded webs, such as [[an]] a spinbond/meltblown/spinbond (SMS) laminate.--